14 May 1912

Sta[illegible] [illegible]ncerning the Distribution of the Book Funds [illegible] [illegible]ornell University Library, 1911-1912.

For the year 1911–1912 the sum available for the increase of the Library is $17,783.26; of this sum $800 is appropriated from the general funds of the University for the purchase of historical works for the President White Library, and is to be expended under the direction of a special committee; $555.83 is the income of the Flower Library fund, to be expended under the direction of the Veterinary College Faculty; $252.65 is the income of the Barnes Library fund for the purchase of Biblical literature; $404.24 is the income of the Fiske fund for additions to the Icelandic Collection, $303.18 is the income of the Fiske fund for additions to the Petrarch and Dante Collections; $50.53 is the income of a special fund for a collection of the Victorian Poets; $15,416.83 is from the income of the Sage Endowment Fund, to be disposed of by the Library Council, for the purchase of books and periodicals for the University Library.

In 1891 the present plan of distribution of the book fund was adopted by the Council, based upon the principle of giving recognition, in the general list of departments, to all subjects taught here, and adding a few subjects not thus cared for, thus recognizing all subjects by a moderate appropriation, sufficient to supply at least the most important current literature of each subject and yet maintaining the principle of keeping the expenditure for this list within about one-third of the total expenditure. The need for books, however, is not in proportion to the officers of instruction, nor is it possible to state justly the relative importance of subjects to each other. Weak or neglected departments of the Library must be treated on different grounds from some others. Therefore it was believed that this could be best managed by leaving the reserve fund large, to be assigned at the wisdom of the Council in supplemental grants to the departments making the most cogent requests. It was resolved that this system should be thus explained in the statement sent to each officer at the beginning of the year, and that no grants should be made from the reserve fund before the second Wednesday in November of each year.

At the meeting of the Council held October 11, 1911, in pursuance of this plan, the appended list of subjects and minimum appropriations was adopted. The total sum thus distributed for the year 1911–12 is $7,825.

In recognition of the need of supplementing the appropriations to specific departments by a fund from which purchases of works important and necessary for the general usefulness and symmetrical development of the Library, not properly falling within any one of these departments, might

be made, it was voted that a discretionary fund of $500 be placed at the disposition of the Librarian for the purchase of such works, [illegible]cific suggestions of important works of general interest are invited.

With a view to a systematic effort toward filling up incomplete sets of important periodicals and transactions, the Council resolved that suggestions of the most important and desirable sets to be completed be handed in from each department, and it was voted that the sum of $500 be appropriated for the purchase of such sets on these lists as may, in the course of the year, come into the market at reasonable prices.

The sum to be assigned to the general periodical list for the year 1911–12 will probably be determined at the next meeting of the Council. While it is left in the discretion of the head of each department to determine to what extent it is desirable to order periodicals on the book appropriation for his subject, the Library Council wishes it to be understood that subscription to a periodical by any department from the book appropriation does not raise the presumption that the periodical will be later transferred to the general appropriation for periodicals.

After making these general appropriations there will remain at the disposal of the Council, to be used for strengthening weak or neglected departments of the library by supplemental grants, or for the purchase of costly and important works and serials, a reserve fund the amount of which will depend upon the sum assigned to the general periodical list. For grants from the reserve fund requests should be made to the Council early in the year.

Under the ruling of the Council any balances of appropriations to departments not taken up on June 1st of each year revert to the disposal of the Council. Accordingly the titles of books desired (specifying, whenever possible, the edition wanted, the place and date of publication, the publisher and price) should be handed to the Librarian before June 1, 1912, on the regular order slips, supplied at the Library, signed by the professor in charge of the department concerned. Under a ruling of the Trustees, the Librarian and President have power to approve orders, signed by professors in charge of departments, for ordinary working books, but shall refer to the Council all orders for costly or otherwise exceptional books.

G. W. HARRIS, *Librarian.*

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LIST OF SUBJECTS ADOPTED

And Amount of Appropriations for 1911-1912.

*Agriculture	$400
Botany, Morphological, etc.	100
Botany, Histological, etc.	100
Geology	300
Entomology and Invertebrate Zoology	100
Neurology, Vertebrate Zoology	100
Anatomy	100
Embryology and Histology	100
Pathology and Bacteriology	100
Physiology and Pharmacology	100
Biochemistry	100
Surgery, Medicine, Obstetrics	75
Physical Culture and Military Science	100
Chemistry	300
Physics	100
Applied Electricity	50
Mathematics	200
Applied Mechanics and Hydraulic Engineering	100
Astronomy	100
Bridge Engineering and Graphics	100
Civil Engineering	100
Railway Engineering and Geodesy	100
Power Engineering	100
Mechanic Arts	50
Machine Design	100
Electrical Engineering	100
Experimental Engineering	100
Naval Architecture	75
Marine Engineering	75
Railway Mechanical Engineering	75
History of Architecture	75
Building Construction	50
Drawing and Design	150
Art (Recommendations may be made by any one but shall be submitted to the Council)	100
Classical Archæology	$100
Comparative and Oriental Philology	100
Semitic Languages and Literature	100
Greek Language	100
Greek Literature	100
Latin Language	100
Latin Literature	100
French Language	100
French Literature	100
Italian Language and Literature	100
Spanish Language and Literature	100
German Language	100
German Literature	100
English and American Literature	250
English Philology and Rhetoric	150
Elocution and Oratory	50
†Oriental History	50
Ancient History	100
Mediæval History	50
Modern European History	50
English History	50
American History	200
New York State History	100
Economics of Distribution	100
Finance	100
Political Economy	100
Politics and International Law	100
Social Science and Statistics	100
Ancient and Mediæval Philosophy	75
Modern Philosophy and Metaphysics	100
Ethics	75
Psychology	75
History of Religions	75
Education	100
Music	100
Folklore	100
Bibliography	100
General Works of Reference	200
	$7,825

* This appropriation for Agriculture is from the income of the Sage Fund only; it, therefore, does not include the sums expended for books by the College of Agriculture from other funds.

† These appropriations for historical subjects from the general fund are in addition to the sum of $800 devoted to the purchase of historical works for the President White Library.

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